

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/825,689

Examiner

Hussein A El-chanti

Applicant(s)

MALLORY ET AL.

Art Unit

2157

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 4/4/2001.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 04 April 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 5/02
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.


SALEH NAJJAR
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to application received on April 4, 2004.
2. Claims 1-11 are allowed.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Richard Paciulan on Nov. 22, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the specification, the full paragraph starting on page 1 lines 7 and ending on page 2 line 5 has been replaced by:

This patent application is further related to the following U.S. Patent Applications filed concurrently herewith and commonly assigned, entitled "A Method of Sharing Information among a Plurality of Stations in a Frame-based Communications Network" Application No. **09/825,708**, "A Method of Enhancing Network Transmission on a Priority-enabled Frame-based Communications Network" Application No. **09/825,897**, "A Method of Determining a Start of a Transmitted Frame in a Frame-based Communications Network" Application No. **09/825,903**, "A Method of Determining an End of a Transmitted Frame in a Frame-based Communications Network" Application No. **09/825,775**, "A Method for Providing Dynamic Adjustment of Frame Encoding

Parameters in a Frame-based Communications Network" Application No. **09/826,218**, "A Method for Selecting Frame Encoding Parameters in a Frame-based Communications Network" Application No. **09/826,435**, "A Method for Selecting Frame Encoding Parameters to Improve Transmission Performance in a Frame-based Communications Network" Application No. **09/825,756**, "A Method of Determining a Collision Between a Plurality of Transmitting Stations in a Frame-based Communications Network" Application No. **09/825,801**, "A Method of Providing Synchronous Transport of Packets Between Asynchronous Network Nodes in a Frame-based Communications Network" Application No. **09/825,851**, "A Method of Controlling Data Sampling Clocking of Asynchronous Network Nodes in a Frame-based Communications Network" Application No. **09/826,067**, "A Method and Apparatus for Optimizing Signal Transformation in a Frame-based Communications Network" Application No. **09/825,599**, "A Method and Apparatus for Transceiver Noise Reduction in a Frame-based Communications Network" Application No. **09/825,638**, "A Method for Selecting an Operating Mode for a Frame-based Communications Network" Application No. **09/825,791**, and "A Transceiver Method and Signal Therefor Embodied in a Carrier Wave for a Frame-based Communications Network" Application No. **09/826,239**.

4. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.109 and M.P.E.P. 1302.14, the following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to teach neither singly or in combination the claimed limitation of "distributing sets of collision resolution parameters to be used for resolution of network access contention events among nodes of non-centralized media access

Art Unit: 2157

control shared medium network, providing a set of collision resolution parameters which includes a sequence of fixed numbers resolving a single network access contention event; identifying a single collision signal slot master node when one or more candidate collision signal slot master nodes exist; and sending collision signal slot request messages from client nodes addressed to all network nodes" as in claims 1-11.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

4. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Distribution of services in telecommunications network by Tunnanen et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,463,141
- Queuing method and apparatus for providing direct data processing access using a queued direct input-output device by Baskey et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,345,327
- Distributed adaptive computing by Kanevsky et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,480,681
- Method of operation of a multi-station network by Larsen et al., U.S. patent No. 6,810,428

- Employing feedback data and congestion ranking to minimize contention delay in a multi-slot Mac protocol by Lau et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,009,468
- Method and apparatus for data storage and search in an address table of an ethernet switch by Chao, U.S. Patent No. 5,915,097
- Method and apparatus avoiding capture effect by adding a slot time to an interpacket gap interval in a station accessing an ethernet network by Kulkante et al. U.S. patent No. 5,854,900
- Shared communications channel with enhanced reservation and collision resolution protocols allows any subset of stations to transmit data after collision occurred in contention slot by Chiu et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,734,833

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hussein A El-chanti whose telephone number is (571)272-3999. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00.

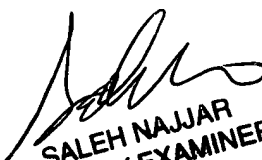
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (571)272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2157

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hussein El-chanti

Nov. 21, 2004



SALEH NAJJAR
PRIMARY EXAMINER